

Grace in Pursuit: Death or Obedience?
Jonah 1:7-17

Introduction

This Sunday, we will continue digging deeper into Jonah 1 looking specifically at verses 7-17. This passage shares the dialogue between Jonah and his pagan shipmates. The end of the matter does not end well for Jonah, but ultimately God's grace shows up once again for the disobedient prophet.

Jonah 1:7-17 (NASB)

Each man said to his mate, "Come, let us cast lots so we may learn on whose account this calamity has struck us." So they cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, "Tell us, now! On whose account has this calamity struck us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?" He said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord God of heaven who made the sea and the dry land."

Then the men became extremely frightened and they said to him, "How could you do this?" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them. So they said to him, "What should we do to you that the sea may become calm for us?"—for the sea was becoming increasingly stormy. He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm has come upon you." However, the men rowed desperately to return to land but they could not, for the sea was becoming even stormier against them. Then they called on the Lord and said, "We earnestly pray, O Lord, do not let us perish on account of this man's life and do not put innocent blood on us; for You, O Lord, have done as You have pleased."

So they picked up Jonah, threw him into the sea, and the sea stopped its raging. Then the men feared the Lord greatly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.

And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.

Basic Outline for Sunday's Message

Grace in Pursuit: Death over Obedience?
Jonah 1:7-17

- I. Jonah's Confession (9)
 - A. I Am God's Chosen
 - B. My God is Lord of All
- II. Jonah's Pity Party (12)
 - A. Death for Me
 - B. Life for Thee
- III. Jonah's Appointment (15-17)
 - A. God's Response to Jonah, Pt. 1
 - B. God's Response to Jonah, Pt. 2

Study Questions

1. Why do you think the sailors become fearful once they found out the God whom Jonah served?
2. Why do you think Jonah was willing to sacrifice himself for the pagans on the ship?
3. Does the text tell us that Jonah knew God would deliver him from the sea?